CLAIMS AMENDMENT:

1. (currently amended) A connector, comprising:

a housing ~~(1)~~ formed with at least one cavity ~~(3)~~ for receiving a terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ along an inserting direction ~~(ID)~~, a retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ formed in the housing ~~(1)~~ and communicating with the cavity ~~(3)~~; and

a retainer ~~(35)~~ insertable into the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ to engage a retainer locking portion ~~(28; 29)~~ on the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~, thereby locking the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~;

wherein at least one of the retainer ~~(35)~~ and the housing ~~(1)~~ comprise a guide ~~(14; 42)~~ for obliquely guiding the retainer ~~(35)~~ with respect to the inserting direction ~~(ID)~~ of the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ and for pushing the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ to a proper position in the cavity ~~(3)~~; and

the retainer locking portion ~~(28; 29)~~ comprising a biting portion ~~(56)~~ with a pointed end facing toward a cooperating surface ~~(46A; 46B)~~ of the retainer ~~(35)~~ for biting in the cooperating surface ~~(46A; 46B)~~ of the retainer ~~(35)~~.

2. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ is formed at an intermediate longitudinal position of the housing ~~(1)~~ so as to be open to three sides thereof.

3. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the guide for obliquely guiding the retainer ~~(35)~~ with respect to the inserting direction ~~(ID)~~ is on a portion of the retainer ~~(35)~~ held substantially in sliding contact with the housing ~~(1)~~ when the retainer ~~(35)~~ is pushed into the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~.

4. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the cavity ~~(3)~~ is formed substantially along a connecting direction ~~(CD)~~ of the housing ~~(1)~~.

5. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, further comprising a resiliently deformable lock ~~(5)~~ in the cavity ~~(3)~~ for engaging the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is inserted to a proper position, wherein the lock ~~(5)~~ doubly locks the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ in cooperation with the retainer ~~(35)~~.

6. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the retainer locking portion ~~(28; 29)~~ comprises a stabilizer ~~(29)~~ disposed for permitting insertion of the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ into the cavity ~~(3)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is in a proper orientation while interfering with a wall surface of the cavity ~~(3)~~ to hinder the insertion of the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is inserted in an orientation different from the proper orientation.

7. (currently amended) The connector of claim 6, wherein the retainer locking portion ~~(28; 29)~~ comprises a projection ~~(28)~~ projecting adjacent the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ and engageable with the retainer ~~(35)~~ together with the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ for locking the retainer ~~(35)~~, a rear end of the projection ~~(28)~~ being at an angle to the inserting direction ~~(ID)~~ and being engageable with the cooperating surface ~~(46A; 46B)~~ of the retainer ~~(35)~~.

8. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the housing ~~(1)~~ has a plurality of cavities ~~(3)~~ arranged at a plurality of stages, the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ communicating with the cavities ~~(3)~~ at each of the stages, and wherein the retainer ~~(35)~~ is configured for locking the terminal fittings ~~(25)~~ into the cavities ~~(3)~~ at each of the stages.

9. (currently amended) A connector, comprising:

a housing ~~(1)~~ formed with a plurality of cavities ~~(3)~~ extending along an inserting direction ~~(ID)~~, a retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ formed in the housing ~~(1)~~ and communicating with each of the cavities ~~(3)~~;

terminal fittings ~~(25)~~ mounted respectively in the cavities ~~(3)~~, each said terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ having a projection ~~(28)~~ and a stabilizer ~~(29)~~, the projection ~~(28)~~ having a rear end aligned substantially normal to the inserting direction ~~(ID)~~, the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ having a pointed rear end ~~(56)~~, the rear ends of the projection ~~(28)~~ and the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ being substantially aligned with the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ when the respective terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is mounted properly in the respective cavity ~~(3)~~; and

a retainer ~~(35)~~ insertable into the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ and having cooperating surfaces ~~(46A; 46B)~~ for engaging the rear ends of the projection ~~(28)~~ and the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ on each of the terminal fittings ~~(25)~~, thereby locking the terminal fittings ~~(25)~~ in the respective cavities ~~(3)~~.

10. (currently amended) The connector of claim 9, wherein the pointed rear end ~~(56)~~ defines an acute angle.

11. (currently amended) The connector of claim 10, wherein the retainer ~~(35)~~ and the housing ~~(1)~~ comprise guides ~~(14; 42)~~ for obliquely guiding the retainer ~~(35)~~ with respect to the inserting direction ~~(ID)~~ of the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ and for pushing any insufficiently inserted terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ to a proper position in the cavity ~~(3)~~.

12. (currently amended) Th connector of claim 11, wherein the retainer mount hole ~~(10)~~ is formed at an intermediate longitudinal position of the housing ~~(1)~~ so as to be open to three sides of the housing ~~(1)~~.

13. (currently amended) The connector of claim 9, further comprising a resiliently deformable lock ~~(5)~~ in the cavity ~~(3)~~ for engaging the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is inserted to a proper position, wherein the lock ~~(5)~~ doubly locks the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ in cooperation with the retainer ~~(35)~~.

14. (currently amended) The connector of claim 9, wherein the housing is formed with a groove for receiving the stabilizer ~~(29)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is in a proper orientation while interfering with a wall surface of the cavity ~~(3)~~ to hinder the insertion of the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ when the terminal fitting ~~(25)~~ is inserted in an orientation different from the proper orientation.